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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

DEFINE GDR AMNESTY TERMS;
ESTIMATE NUMBERS OF DEPORTEES, REFUGEESDEFINE TERMS OF AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS -- Buenos Aires, Argentinisches
Tageblatt, 19 Nov 51

The GDR government has agreed to grant amnesty to 20,000 political prisoners, in response to West Germany's demand for the release of such prisoners as a pre-requisite for all-German elections. The directives for enforcing this amnesty call for the release of all prisoners serving sentences of not more than 6 months. Persons with sentences of not more than one year are to be released only if they are willing to undergo a probationary work period in mines or factories. However, in the GDR persons convicted of political crimes are given prison sentences of not less than 2 years.

REPORTS 50,000 ARE POLITICAL PRISONERS; AMNESTY DROPPED -- Buenos Aires, Argentinisches
Tageblatt, 8 Dec 51

Berlin -- The anti-Soviet underground movement has ascertained that over 50,000 persons have been imprisoned in the German Democratic Republic on charges of constituting a threat to the Communist regime. The Group of Fighters Against Inhumanity reports that the GDR government has sentenced 24,200 persons to imprisonment for political activities, 10,000 for political and criminal offenses, and 8,000 on unspecified charges.

None of these persons has been affected by the amnesty for 20,000 political prisoners which the GDR announced in connection with its campaign for the re-establishment of German unity. When this amnesty was promised, the East German press made much of this fact; however, nothing whatever has been done about it and the amnesty is no longer being discussed.

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RAILROAD OFFICIALS ARRESTED -- Buenos Aires, Argentinisches Tageblatt, 8 Dec 51

Berlin -- The comptroller of the operating receipts of the East German Reichsbahn, Blauert (SET German Socialist Unity Party), and his deputy, Bergmann (SED), have been arrested for sabotage and lack of vigilance in connection with the theft of one million East marks of Reichsbahn operating receipts from the Berlin office.

DEPORT 700,000 GERMANS TO USSR -- Buenos Aires, Argentinisches Tageblatt, 28 Nov 51

Bonn -- Responsible circles in Bonn place the number of German nationals and ethnic Germans deported to the USSR at 700,000. It has been ascertained that the deportations were based on a total plan which had been in preparation for a long time and had been begun systematically in 1945. Surviving deportees are in camps or have been forcibly resettled.

61,000 FLEE TO WEST BERLIN IN 1951 -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 31 Dec 51

The West Berlin authorities report that 61,000 East Germans fled to West Berlin in 1951 for political reasons. However, only 16,350 of these were acknowledged as political refugees. Also in 1951, 1,300 People's Police men fled from the German Democratic Republic to West Berlin, an increase of 340 deserters as compared with 1950.

130,000 FLEE IN 1949, 1950 -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 8 Jan 52

More than 130,000 persons from the German Democratic Republic fled to West Berlin during 1949 and 1950. In 1951, another 61,000 persons fled to West Berlin from the GDR. Of these 190,000 or more refugees, however, only 72,000 were acknowledged as political refugees.

GDR ATHLETES FLEE TO WEST GERMANY -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 17 Dec 51

Three leading soccer players of the German Democratic Republic, Werner Oberlaender, Winfried Herz, and Heinz Wozniaskowski, have fled to Braunschweig, West Germany.

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